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DE RUEHDBU #1464/01 2131212  
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FM AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8260  
INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC  
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE  
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 1741  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1468  
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 1686  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 1725  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1682  
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE  
RHMFISS/HQ USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 1664  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1263  
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE PRIORITY 1712  
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE 9579

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 DUSHANBE 001464

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STATE FOR SCA/CEN, EUR/RUS, EUR/CARC, PM, S/P

EO 12958 DECL: 8/1/2016  
TAGS PGOV, PREL, MARR, GG, RS, TI  
SUBJECT: OLD-GUARD TAJIK MINISTER OF DEFENSE OBSESSES ON NATO,  
GEORGIA  
DUSHANBE 00001464 001.2 OF 002

CLASSIFIED BY: Richard E. Hoagland, Ambassador, Embassy Dushanbe, State Department. REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (C) SUMMARY: The Ambassador endured a three-hour-plus one-on-one lunch August 1 with Tajikistan's Minister of Defense Sherali Khairulloyev.  
2. (C) Defense Minister Khairulloyev apologized several times for "misunderstandings and missed opportunities" in the past in U.S.-Tajik milit  
3. (C) Minister Khairulloyev returned several times to NATO and Georgia. He repeatedly asked, "Why does NATO want a country like Georgia? Ever  
4. (C) Khairulloyev volunteered that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has to develop to become a military bloc "with one-third of t  
COLOR

5. (C) This lunch took place in Minister Khairulloyev's private dining room off his recently renovated private office. He emphasized that he s

6. (C) The Ambassador lost track of the toasts after the tenth. His shot-glass held vodka. The minister's high-ball glass was kept filled wit

COMMENT

6. (C) This bizarre event was curious, because U.S.-Tajik military relations have incrementally been improving, especially with the National C  
DUSHANBE 00001464 002.2 OF 002  
serves at the pleasure of President Rahmonov and may be replaced after the November presidential election. Although this drunk-fest is how many